

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed with a Request for Continued Examination. Applicant requests entry of the amendments contained herein before examination of the application and calculation of the filing fee.

Newly-added independent claim 35 recites driving a logic signal to activate a bleed circuit so that the bleed circuit conducts current from a supply voltage plane in response to a back-driven voltage on the supply voltage plane to restrict a magnitude of the voltage.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 35, the pull-down circuits of Price are not activated by logic signals, but rather, Price's pull-down circuits rely on powered-down supply voltage planes (when the computer system is powered off). Thus, if Price were combined with the disclosure that is presented in the Background section of the present application, this combination would not produce the claimed invention, as Price does not contemplate activating a bleed circuit via a logic signal when the supply voltage planes to which Price's pull-down circuit are not completely powered down.

The apparatus of newly-added independent claim 42 and the computer system of newly-added independent claim 48 each recites logic to activate a bleed circuit. Thus, for similar reasons, the hypothetical combination of Price and the disclosure that is presented in the Background section of the present application fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention.

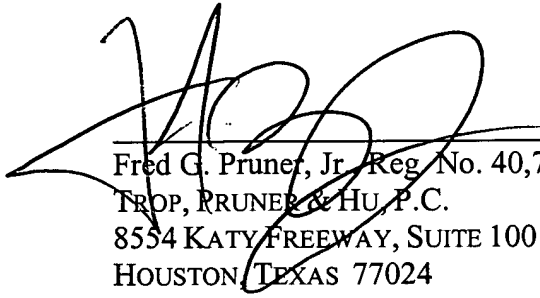
Claims 36-41, 43-47 and 49-53 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant requests a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0577US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 3, 2005



Fred G. Pruner, Jr. Reg. No. 40,779
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 KATY FREEWAY, SUITE 100
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024
713/468-8880 [Phone]
713/468-8883 [Fax]

Attorney for Intel Corporation